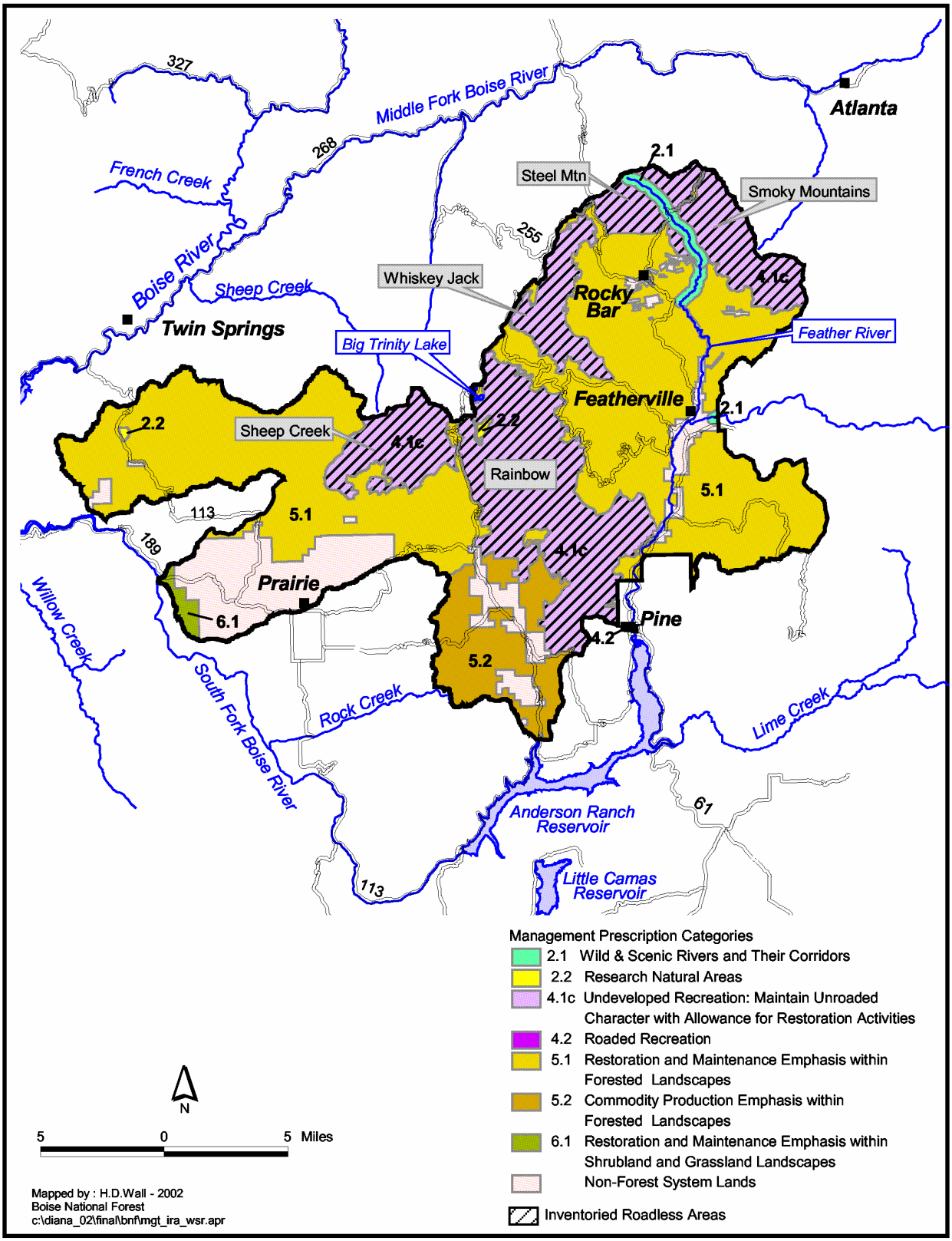
Management Area 02 - Rattlesnake Creek/Feather River Location Map



Management Area 2
Rattlesnake Creek/Feather River

MANAGEMENT AREA DESCRIPTION

Management Prescriptions - Management Area 2 has the following management prescriptions (see map on preceding page for distribution of prescriptions).

Management Prescription Category (MPC)	Percent of Mgt. Area
2.2 – Research Natural Areas	Trace
4.1c – Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	33
4.2 – Roaded Recreation Emphasis	Trace
5.1 – Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	58
5.2 – Commodity Production Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	8
6.1 – Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Shrubland & Grassland Landscapes	1

General Location and Description - Management Area 2 is located north of the South Fork Boise River, in the southern portion of the Boise National Forest, about 15-45 miles east of Boise, Idaho (see map, opposite page). Administered by the Mountain Home Ranger District, the management area is in Elmore County and extends from Arrowrock Reservoir in the west to Featherville in the east (see area map, opposite). The management area is an estimated 198,900 acres, of which 88 percent are managed by the Forest Service, 10 percent are privately owned, and 2 percent are State of Idaho lands. The area is bordered by Boise National Forest to the south, west, and north, and Sawtooth National Forest to the east. The primary uses or activities in this management area have been timber management, dispersed recreation, livestock grazing, and mining.

Access - The main access to the area is by State Highway 20 from Interstate 84 to Forest Road 134 to Anderson Ranch Reservoir and Forest Road 113. Other access routes include Forest Roads 156 along the South Fork Boise River and 123/129 up Fall Creek. The density of classified roads for the management area is an estimated 2.0 miles per square mile. Total road density for area subwatersheds ranges between 0.7 and 4.4 miles per square mile. The roadless portions of the area are accessed by trails.

Special Features - Two eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers fall within the management area, Elk Creek and the South Fork Boise River. Elk Creek has two segments in this management area with classifications of Scenic and Wild. The Scenic segment is an estimated 5.1 miles, with a river corridor of 1,642 acres. The Wild segment is 2.2 miles, with a river corridor of 717 acres. Elk Creek is considered eligible for Wild and Scenic River status because of its outstandingly remarkable cultural resource values.

The South Fork Boise River has one segment, with a Recreational classification, which is 0.2 mile, with a river corridor of 70 acres. The South Fork is considered eligible for Wild and Scenic River status because of its outstandingly remarkable recreational, geologic, hydrologic, and cultural resource values.

The Elk Creek Enclosure RNA (110 acres) contains undisturbed grassland vegetation, and the Trinity Mountain RNA (190 acres) contains undisturbed alpine vegetation. The rural communities of Pine, Featherville, and Prairie are in this management area. The Trinity Lakes area attracts heavy backcountry recreation use. An estimated 29 percent of the area is inventoried as roadless, including all of the Whiskey-Jack Roadless Area, and portions of the Rainbow, Smoky Mountains, Sheep Creek, Lost Man Creek and Steel Mountain Roadless Areas.

Air Quality - This management area lies within Montana/Idaho Airshed ID-21 and in Elmore County. Particulate matter is the primary pollutant of concern related to Forest management. There are ambient air monitors located within these airsheds in Boise, Idaho City, and Mountain Home to obtain current background levels, trends, and seasonal patterns of particulate matter. The Sawtooth Wilderness is the closest Class I area. Visibility monitoring has been expanded for this area.

Between 1995 and 1999, emissions trends in Elmore County improved for PM 10, while PM 2.5 emissions remained constant. The most common source of particulate matter in the county was fugitive dust from unpaved roads and agricultural activities such as tilling. In addition to Forest management activities, crop residue and ditch burning may contribute to particulate matter emissions, although the amount of agricultural-related burning was moderately low (an estimated 5,000 acres) within the county. Point sources contributed minor amounts to the annual total PM 2.5 emissions within the county.

Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources - Elevations range from 3,100 feet at the South Fork Boise River to 9,451 feet atop Trinity Mountain. Management Area 2 falls within portions of multiple subsections, including the Trinity Mountains, Middle Fork Boise Canyon and Streamcut Lands, and Cayuse Point. The main geomorphic landforms associated with the subsections are glaciated uplands, deeply entrenched canyonlands, and strongly dissected fluvial lands. Slope gradients average between 25 to 65 percent in the uplands, 15 to 45 percent in the canyonlands, and 30 to 60 percent in the fluvial lands. The surface geology is predominantly Idaho batholith granitics. Soils generally have moderate to high surface erosion potential, and moderate productivity. Subwatershed vulnerability ratings range from moderate to low, with the majority being moderate (see table below). Geomorphic Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately) (see table below). There are localized impacts from roads, livestock grazing, timber harvest, wildfire, and recreation. Impacts include accelerated erosion, upland compaction, and stream channel modification.

The management area is comprised of the Feather-Grouse and Fall Creek Watersheds, and part of the Lower South Fork Boise River Watershed. The entire area drains into the South Fork Boise River Subbasin. The main streams in the area are the South Fork Boise River and its tributaries: Fall Creek, Smith Creek, Rattlesnake Creek, Trinity Creek, and Feather River. There are a number of high alpine lakes in the vicinity of Trinity Mountain. Water Quality Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately) (see table below). Localized impacts include thermal changes due to water diversions, and accelerated sediment from roads, timber management, livestock grazing, and recreation. Seven of the 15 subwatersheds in this area have water bodies that were listed as impaired in 1998 under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. These subwatersheds are Lower

Rattlesnake, Upper Rattlesnake, Lower Smith, Upper Smith, Feather River, Bear Creek, and Elk Creek. Sediment was the pollutant of concern in all seven subwatersheds. There are currently no TMDL-assigned watersheds associated with this management area.

Subwatershed Vulnerability			Geomorphic Integrity			Water Quality Integrity			No. 303(d) Subs	No. Subs With TMDLs	No. Public Water System Subs
High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low			
4	11	0	0	7	8	0	8	7	7	0	0

Anadromous fish species no longer exist within area streams due to downstream dams that block their migration routes to and from the ocean. Bull trout occur in the Upper Rattlesnake Creek, Feather River, Bear Creek, Elk Creek, and Wagontown-Schoolhouse subwatersheds, with a strong local population found in the Elk Creek subwatershed. Habitat is currently fragmented. Redband trout are only found in the Wagontown-Schoolhouse subwatershed. The South Fork Boise River is managed as a blue ribbon rainbow trout stream, and Rainbow Basin is managed as a high-quality, alpine lake backcountry fishery. Introduced brook trout occur in Smith and Fall Creeks. Other non-native fish species have been introduced to area streams and reservoirs for sport fishing. Aquatic habitat is functioning at risk in some areas due to elevated water temperatures, habitat fragmentation, and accelerated sediment. Native fish populations are at risk due to the presence of non-native species and habitat impacts described above. The Bear Creek and Elk Creek subwatersheds have been identified as important to the recovery of listed fish species, and as high-priority areas for restoration.

Vegetation - Vegetation at lower elevations is typically grasslands and shrublands and ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir on south and west aspects, and Douglas-fir forests on north and east aspects. Mid-elevations are dominated by shrubs and forest communities of Douglas-fir and subalpine fir, with pockets of lodgepole pine and aspen. Forest communities of subalpine fir and whitebark pine are found in the upper elevations, interspersed with cliffs and talus slopes.

An estimated 26 percent of the management area is comprised of rock, water, or shrubland and grassland vegetation groups, including Mountain Big Sage, Montane Shrub, and Perennial Grass Slopes. The main forested vegetation groups in the area are Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine (18 percent), Cool Dry Douglas-fir (6 percent), Cool Moist Douglas-fir (19 percent), Dry Ponderosa Pine/Xeric Douglas-fir (16 percent), and Warm Dry Subalpine Fir (7 percent). Aspen is an important component in all of the forested groups.
The Mountain Big Sagebrush and Montane Shrub groups are functioning at risk due to fire exclusion that has resulted in many stands with old age structure, dense canopies, and low levels of herbaceous ground cover. Perennial Grass Slopes are not functioning properly because native species have been replaced in many areas by noxious weeds and introduced grasses and forbs (cheatgrass, wheatgrass, rush skeletonweed, sweet clover, orchard grass).

The Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine and Dry Ponderosa Pine/Xeric Douglas-fir groups are not functioning properly. Stands that have recently burned have experienced high mortality because decades of fire exclusion resulted in high stand densities and fuel loadings that moved this group from a non-lethal to a lethal fire regime. These high density and fuel conditions still exist in unburned stands. Recent insect outbreaks have increased tree mortality and the risk of uncharacteristic large wildfire. The Cool Dry Douglas-fir and Cool Moist

Douglas-fir groups have similar conditions but to a lesser extent, and therefore, they are only functioning at risk at present. These groups also have increasing insect and mistletoe infestations, and lack young structural stages and seral ponderosa pine and aspen. The Warm Dry Subalpine Fir group and aspen are functioning at risk due to fire exclusion that has resulted in old stands without much structural diversity. Some aspen stands are being replaced by conifers or sagebrush.

Riparian vegetation is functioning at risk due to localized impacts from roads, livestock grazing, and fire exclusion. Composition has changed in many riparian areas because of lowered water tables and introduced plant species. Non-native plants have increased, and *carex* and other wetland species have decreased. Native cottonwoods and broadleaf shrubs have also decreased, and are not regenerating in many areas.

Botanical Resources – Current Region 4 Sensitive species known in this management area include Idaho douglasia and giant helleborine orchid. There are also known populations of Kellogg's bitterroot, a Region 4 proposed Sensitive species, and Wilcox's primrose, a proposed Region 4 Watch species, and tall swamp onion, a proposed Forest Watch species. No federally listed or proposed plant species are known to occur in this area, but potential habitat for Ute ladies'-tresses and slender moonwort may exist. Ute ladies'-tresses, a Threatened species, may have moderate to high potential habitat in riparian/wetland areas from 1,000 to 7,000 feet. Slender moonwort, a Candidate species, may occur in moderate to higher elevation grasslands, meadows, and small openings in spruce and lodgepole pine.

Non-native Plants - Rush skeletonweed, spotted knapweed, leafy spurge, and Dalmatian toadflax occur in the area, particularly along the main road corridors. An estimated 49 percent of the area is highly susceptible to invasion by noxious weed and exotic plant species. The main weeds of concern are rush skeletonweed and leafy spurge, which currently occur in scattered populations throughout the management area.

Subwatersheds in the table below have an inherently high risk of weed establishment and spread from activities identified with a "yes" in the various activity columns. This risk is due to the amount of drainage area that is highly susceptible to noxious weed invasion and the relatively high level of exposure from those identified vectors or carriers of weed seed.

Subwatershed	Road-related Activities	Livestock Use	Timber Harvest	Recreation & Trail Use	ATV Off-Road Use
Lower Rattlesnake Creek	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Upper Rattlesnake Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No
Lower Smith Creek	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Lower Fall Creek	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Middle Fall Creek	No	No	Yes	No	No
Wagontown-Schoolhouse	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Feather River	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Bear Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No
Elk Creek	Yes	No	No	No	No
Dog-Nichols	No	No	No	Yes	No

Wildlife Resources - The wide range of elevations and vegetation types in the management area provide a variety of wildlife habitats. The South Fork Boise River corridor has wintering and nesting habitat for bald eagles and potential nesting habitat for peregrine falcons. Much of the low-elevation grasslands and shrublands are important winter range for elk and deer, as well as foraging habitat for mountain quail, sage grouse, and introduced turkey and chukar. Low and mid-elevation forests provide habitat for a number of Region 4 sensitive species, including northern goshawk, flammulated owl, and white-headed woodpecker. High-elevation forests provide nesting and foraging habitat for many migratory landbirds, as well as summer range for mammals such as elk, black bear, and mountain lion. Yellow-billed cuckoo habitat may be present in cottonwood stands in the lower portions of the South Fork Boise River. Overall, terrestrial habitat is functioning at risk because, in managed areas, timber harvest and roads have increased fragmentation and have reduced snags, large trees, and large woody debris below historical levels. In unmanaged areas, stand densities and fuel loadings are likely above or at the high end of their historical levels, reducing habitat for species such as flammulated owl and white-headed woodpecker, and increasing the risk of lethal wildfire.

Recreation Resources - Dispersed recreation such as hunting, fishing, hiking, sightseeing, snowmobiling, skiing, off-road vehicle use, and camping occurs throughout Management Area 2, and there are many dispersed campsites. The Trinity Lakes area has four developed campgrounds, and the adjacent Rainbow Basin area is heavily used for backcountry recreation. The South Fork Boise River corridor is used for fishing, rafting, kayaking, and canoeing. Key recreation areas and travel corridors have objectives designed to protect visual quality. Almost all roads and trails in the area are open to some type of motorized vehicle use. The management area is located partially within Idaho Fish and Game Management Units 39 and 43.

Cultural Resources - Cultural themes in this area include Mining, Ethnic Heritage, Ranching, Transportation, Timber Industry, Forest Service History, and the CCC. This management area contains the South Boise Historic Mining District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1863, miners discovered gold on Feather River and its tributaries, leading to the establishment of Rocky Bar and Featherville. Sites associated with Chinese miners are in the area. In 1864, Julius Newberg built the South Boise Wagon Road, linking the mining camps with ranches along Goodale's Cutoff. Today, Forest Highway 61 follows portions of the old toll road. Historic properties associated with logging and homesteading are also located in the area. In 1906, the Forest Service established the Trinity Lakes Guard Station in conjunction with a nearby lookout on Trinity Mountain. In 1934, CCC crews replaced the guard station buildings with new structures and built campgrounds in the area.

Timberland Resources - Of the estimated 98,300 tentatively suited acres in this management area, 52,200 acres have been identified as being suited timberlands, or appropriate for timber production. This represents about 10 percent of the Forest's suited timberland acres. The suited timberland acres are found in MPCs 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, and 6.1, as shown on the map displaying the MPCs for this management area. Lands in MPCs 2.2 and 4.1c have been identified as not suited for timber production. This area has had a moderate to high level of past timber management. Portions of this area were also selectively harvested for mine timbers, construction lumber, and fuelwood for historic mining communities. Fuelwood, post, poles, Christmas trees, and other forest products are currently collected in designated areas.

Rangeland Resources - The management area contains all or portions of seven cattle and two sheep allotments. Management Area 2 provides an estimated 54,200 acres of capable rangeland. These acres represent about 14 percent of the capable rangeland on the Forest. This area features a fairly high level of structural range improvements.

Mineral Resources - The area is open to mineral activities and prospecting. Historic mining has occurred for gold, silver, and copper. The locatable mineral potential is high in areas of past activity, such as the Rocky Bar and South Boise Mining Districts. The leasable mineral potential for geothermal resources is moderate. The potential for other leasable and locatable minerals is low. The potential for common variety mineral materials (mostly decorative stone and basalt gravel) is high in the mining districts, and unknown elsewhere.

Fire Management - Prescribed fire has been used to improve winter range and livestock forage conditions and to reduce activity-generated and natural fuels. This management area is not in the Forest's wildland fire use planning area, so no wildland fire use is anticipated. Large wildfires (Foothills, Whiskey) have burned about 15 to 20 percent of the management area in the last 15 years. These fires were, for the most part, high intensity lethal wildfires.

Pine, Prairie, and Featherville are National Fire Plan communities, and Lower Smith Creek, Lower Fall Creek, Dog-Nichols, Grouse Creek, Wagontown-Schoolhouse, Lower Trinity Creek, and Feather River subwatersheds are considered wildland-urban interface areas due to private development adjacent to the Forest. Lower Smith Creek, Lower Fall Creek, Dog-Nichols, Grouse Creek, Wagontown-Schoolhouse, Upper Smith Creek, and Feather River subwatersheds are considered to pose risks to life and property from potential post-fire floods and debris flows. Historical fire regimes for the area are estimated to be: 11 percent lethal, 45 percent mixed1 or 2, and 44 percent non-lethal. An estimated 14 percent of the area regimes have vegetation conditions that are highly departed from their historical range. Most of this change has occurred in the historically non-lethal fire regimes, resulting in conditions where wildfire would likely be much larger and more intense and severe than historically. In addition, 39 percent of the area is in moderately departed conditions—15 percent in the mixed1/mixed2 fire regimes, and 24 percent in the non-lethal regimes. Wildfire in these areas may result in somewhat larger patch sizes of high intensity or severity, but not to the same extent as in the highly departed areas in non-lethal fire regimes.

Lands and Special Uses - There are several utility corridors to private inholdings and communities. Opportunities exist to consolidate National Forest System lands through exchange with other landowners in the area. The Featherville, Trinity, and Dog Mountain designated communication sites are located within the management area.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

In addition to Forest-wide Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines that provide direction for all management areas, the following direction has been developed specifically for this area.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 2.1 Wild and Scenic Rivers	General Standard	0201	Manage the South Fork Boise River and Elk Creek eligible river corridors to their assigned Wild and Scenic River classification standards, and preserve their ORVs and free-flowing status until the rivers undergo a suitability study and the study finds them suitable for designation by Congress, or releases them from further consideration as Wild and Scenic Rivers.
	Vegetation Guideline	0202	In Scenic or Recreational corridors, mechanical vegetation treatments, including salvage harvest, may be used as long as ORVs are maintained within the river corridor.
	Fire Guideline	0203	Prescribed fire may be used in any river corridor as long as ORVs are maintained within the corridor.
	Fire Guideline	0204	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize the impacts of suppression activities on river classifications and ORVs.
MPC 2.2 Research Natural Areas	General Standard	0205	Mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, and prescribed fire may only be used to maintain values for which the areas were established, or to achieve other objectives that are consistent with the RNA establishment record or management plan.
	Road Standard	0206	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To maintain the values for which the RNA was established.
	Fire Guideline	0207	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Fire suppression strategies and tactics should minimize impacts to the values for which the RNA was established.
MPC 4.1c Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	General Standard	0208	Management actions—including mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, prescribed fire, special use authorizations, and road maintenance—must be designed and implemented in a manner that would be consistent with the unroaded landscape in the temporary, short term, and long term. Exceptions to this standard are actions in the 4.1c road standard, below.
	Road Standard	0209	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty.
	Fire Guideline	0210	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize tactics that minimize impacts of suppression activities on the unroaded landscape in the area.
MPC 4.2 Roaded Recreation	Vegetation Guideline	0211	Vegetation management actions—including prescribed fire and mechanical treatments—may be used to maintain or restore desired vegetation and fuel conditions provided they do not prevent achievement of recreation resource objectives.
	Fire Guideline	0212	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to recreation developments and investments.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 5.1 Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Road Standard	0213	New roads and landings shall be located outside of RCAs in the MPC 5.1 portion of the Elk Creek subwatershed unless it can be demonstrated through the project-level NEPA analysis and related Biological Assessment that: a) For resources that are within their range of desired conditions, the addition of a new road or landing in an RCA shall not result in degradation to those resources unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and b) For resources that are already in a degraded condition, the addition of a new road or landing in an RCA shall not further degrade nor retard attainment of desired resource conditions unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those resource conditions; and c) Adverse effects to TEPC species or their habitats are avoided unless outweighed by demonstrable short- or long-term benefits to those TEPC species or their habitats. An exception to this standard is where construction of new roads in RCAs is required to respond to reserved or outstanding rights, statute or treaty, or respond to emergency situations (e.g., wildfires threatening life or property, or search and rescue operations).
	Vegetation Guideline	0214	The full range of treatment activities may be used to restore and maintain desired vegetation and fuel conditions. Salvage harvest may also occur.
	Fire Guideline	0215	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to habitats, developments, and investments.
	Road Guideline	0216	Road construction or reconstruction may occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To achieve restoration and maintenance objectives for vegetation, water quality, aquatic habitat, or terrestrial habitat, or d) To support management actions taken to reduce wildfire risks in wildland-urban interface areas; or e) To meet access and travel management objectives.
MPC 5.2 Commodity Production Emphasis within Forested Landscapes	Fire Guideline	0217	Prescribed fire may be used to: a) Maintain or restore desired vegetative conditions on unsuited timberlands; or b) Maintain or restore desired fuel conditions for all vegetation types; or c) Maintain desired vegetative conditions on suited timberlands within PVGs 2 through 10.
	Fire Guideline	0218	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to developments and investments.
MPC 6.1	Vegetation Guideline	0219	The full range of treatment activities may be used to restore and maintain desired vegetation and fuel conditions. Salvage harvest may also occur.
	Fire Guideline	0220	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to habitats, developments, and investments.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 6.1 Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Shrubland and Grassland Landscapes	Road Guideline	0221	Road construction or reconstruction may occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To achieve restoration and maintenance objectives for vegetation, water quality, aquatic habitat, or terrestrial habitat, or d) To support management actions taken to reduce wildfire risks in wildland-urban interface areas; or e) To meet access and travel management objectives.
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Objective	0222	Restore water quality within the Feather River and Trinity Creek drainages by reducing accelerated sediment delivery from existing roads. Prioritize restoration where road-related sedimentation to bull trout spawning and rearing habitats can be quickly reduced, and benefits to water quality and aquatic species can be maximized.
	Objective	0223	Manage for strong local populations of bull trout in the Elk Creek and Bear Creek subwatersheds through active habitat restoration by reducing mining and road-related impacts to water quality and fish habitat.
	Objective	0224	Restore migration connectivity for bull trout and redband trout in the Feather River and Trinity Creek drainages by removing migration barriers in the existing roads.
	Objective	0225	Develop a schedule to inventory existing culverts to determine if they currently provide fish passage and prevent fish entrainment. Prioritize completion of the Feather River, Lower Trinity Creek, Upper Trinity Creek, and Dog-Nichols subwatershed inventories.
	Guideline	0226	For the Feather River, Lower Trinity Creek, Upper Trinity Creek, and Dog-Nichols subwatersheds, bull trout fish passage should be a high priority. Culverts should be inventoried and modified as needed to ensure fish passage occurs during required times of the year.
Vegetation	Objective	0227	Restore, where needed, large tree component and early seral species in the Cool Moist Douglas-fir, Dry Ponderosa Pine/Xeric Douglas-fir, and Warm Dry Douglas-fir/Moist Ponderosa Pine vegetation groups. Reduce risk from insect damage and uncharacteristic wildfire by managing stands in these groups in a manner that favors early seral species, and that will begin approaching size and density desired conditions as described in Appendix A.
	Objective	0228	Restore decadent aspen stands where they currently exist by stimulating regeneration and reducing conifer density. Restore historical disturbance regimes for aspen. Emphasize the use of prescribed fire for aspen treatments.
Botanical Resources	Objective	0229	Maintain or restore known populations and occupied habitats of TEPCS plant species, including Idaho douglasia, giant helleborine orchid, and Kellogg's bitterroot, to contribute to the long-term viability of these species.
	Objective	0230	Emphasize reducing leafy spurge and rush skeletonweed within rare plant occupied and potential habitat.
	Standard	0231	Implement the Forest Service approved portions of the conservation strategy for Idaho douglasia to maintain or restore populations and habitat of this species.

<table>
<tr><th>MPC/Resource Area</th><th>Direction</th><th>Number</th><th>Management Direction Description</th></tr>
<tr><td>Non-native Plants</td><td>Objective</td><td>0232</td><td>Contain and control the spread of multiple noxious weeds, particularly rush skeletonweed and leafy spurge, and prevent establishment of new noxious weed species.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Wildlife Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>0233</td><td>Maintain or restore bald eagle wintering habitat along the South Fork Boise River corridor.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="7">Recreation Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>0234</td><td>Inventory and analyze recreation opportunities in the Trinity/Rainbow Lakes area to determine future recreation management needs.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0235</td><td>Relocate or reconstruct trails such as Camp Creek, Crosscut, and Dismal Swamp that are not meeting resource objectives or are causing visitor safety concerns.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0236</td><td>Facilitate and participate in the development of a scenic byway corridor management plan for the Ponderosa Pine Scenic Byway with local government agencies and other partners.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0237</td><td>Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from off-road ATV/motorbike use in the Lower Smith Creek subwatershed. Consider annual weed inspection and treatment of trailheads and other high-use areas; and posting educational notices in these areas to inform the public of areas that are susceptible to weed invasion and measures they can take to help prevent weed establishment and spread.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0238</td><td>Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from concentrated recreation and trail use in the Lower Rattlesnake Creek, Dog-Nichols, and Wagontown-Schoolhouse subwatersheds. Consider annual weed inspection and treatment of trailheads, campgrounds, and other high-use areas; and posting educational notices in these areas to inform the public of areas that are highly susceptible to weed invasion and measures they can take to help prevent weed establishment and spread.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0239</td><td>Achieve or maintain the following ROS strategy:

<table><tr><th rowspan="2">ROS Class</th><th colspan="2">Percent of Mgt. Area</th></tr><tr><th>Summer</th><th>Winter</th></tr><tr><td>Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized</td><td>13%</td><td>20%</td></tr><tr><td>Semi-Primitive Motorized</td><td>12%</td><td>78%</td></tr><tr><td>Roaded Natural</td><td>21%</td><td>2%</td></tr><tr><td>Roaded Modified</td><td>54%</td><td>0%</td></tr></table>
The above numbers reflect current travel regulations. These numbers may change as a result of future travel regulation planning.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Standard</td><td>0240</td><td>Within the Rainbow Lakes area, prohibit recreation pack and saddle stock on designated trails and adjacent to lakes to protect sensitive resources and provide a range of recreation opportunities and experiences.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Cultural Resources</td><td>Objective</td><td>0241</td><td>Maintain the National Register status of eligible properties including Trinity Lakes Guard Station, which is on the Forest's cabin rental program, and the South Boise Historic Mining District, which is listed on the NRHP.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective</td><td>0242</td><td>Inventory Smith Prairie and acquired lands on Fall Creek and its tributaries for historic properties.</td></tr>
</table>

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Cultural Resources	Objective	0243	Monitor the conditions of NRHP eligible properties in the area to be aware of potential damage or loss of important historic properties.
	Objective	0244	Nominate Trinity Lakes Guard Station to the NRHP, and develop a maintenance plan to protect its historic character.
	Objective	0245	Develop a management plan for the South Boise Historic Mining District that includes revising the NRHP listing to identify contributing properties.
Timberland Resources	Objective	0246	Evaluate and implement, where needed, Timber Stand Improvement (TSI) treatments in regenerated stands in the Foothills Fire and Star Gulch Fire areas.
	Objective	0247	Reduce the opportunity for noxious weed establishment and spread by keeping suitable weed sites to a minimum during timber harvest activities in the Lower Rattlesnake Creek, Lower Smith Creek, Lower Fall Creek, Middle Fall Creek, Wagontown-Schoolhouse, and Feather River subwatersheds. Consider such methods as designated skid trails, winter skidding, minimal fireline construction, broadcast burning rather than pile burning, or keeping slash piles small to reduce heat transfer to the soil.
	Guideline	0248	Existing noxious weed infestations should be treated on landings, skid trails, and helibases in the project area before timber harvest activities begin in the Lower Rattlesnake Creek, Lower Smith Creek, Lower Fall Creek, Middle Fall Creek, Wagontown-Schoolhouse, and Feather River subwatersheds.
Rangeland Resources	Objective	0249	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from livestock grazing activities in the Lower Rattlesnake, Lower Smith Creek, Lower Fall Creek, and Wagontown-Schoolhouse subwatersheds. Methods to consider include changes in the timing, intensity, duration, or frequency of livestock use; the location of salting; and restoration of watering sites.
	Standard	0250	Prohibit all livestock grazing in the Rainbow Basin Lakes area to protect sensitive resources and provide a range of recreation opportunities and experiences.
Fire Management	Objective	0251	Use prescribed fire and mechanical treatments within and adjacent to wildland/urban interface areas to reduce fuels and wildfire hazards. Develop and prioritize vegetation treatment plans in coordination with local and tribal governments, agencies, and landowners.
	Objective	0252	Coordinate and emphasize fire education and prevention programs with private landowners to help reduce wildfire hazards and risks. Work with landowners to increase defensible space around structures.
	Objective	0253	Evaluate opportunities to demonstrate and teach techniques in fire ecology within the Cottonwood Demonstration Area set aside in the 1995 Record of Decision for the Boise River Wildfire Recovery Project. As part of this evaluation, determine the need to maintain the special status of the area and define area uses expected in the future.
	Guideline	0254	Coordinate with adjacent land managers to develop compatible wildland fire suppression strategies.
Facilities and Roads	Objective	0255	Explore opportunities to manage the Cottonwood Guard/Work Station through a concession authorization to reduce maintenance costs.

MPC/Resource Area	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Facilities and Roads	Objective	0256	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from road management activities in the Lower Rattlesnake Creek, Upper Rattlesnake Creek, Lower Smith Creek, Wagontown-Schoolhouse, Feather River, Bear Creek, and Elk Creek subwatersheds. Methods to consider include: ➢ When decommissioning roads, treat weeds before roads are made impassable. ➢ Schedule road maintenance activities when weeds are least likely to be viable or spread. Blade from least to most infested sites. ➢ Consult or coordinate with the district noxious weed coordinator when scheduling road maintenance activities. ➢ Periodically inspect road systems and rights of way. ➢ Avoid accessing water for dust abatement through weed-infested sites, or utilize mitigation to minimize weed seed transport.
Scenic Environment	Standard	0257	Meet the visual quality objectives as represented on the Forest VQO Map, and where indicated in the table below as viewed from the following areas/corridors:

Sensitive Travel Route Or Use Area	Sensitivity Level	Visual Quality Objective								
		Fg			Mg			Bg		
		Variety Class			Variety Class			Variety Class		
		A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
South Fork Boise River	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Rainbow Lakes developed sites & trails	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Forest Roads 114, 129, 172, 173, 7000	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Elks Flat, Dog Creek Campgrounds	1	R	R	PR	R	PR	PR	R	PR	M
Forest Roads 113, 125, 126, 128, 156	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Ice Springs Campground	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Forest Trails 037, 055, 089, 123, 126, 127, 128, 129, 156, 165, 173, 176, 177, 191, 200, 270	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM
Trinity Lookout	2	PR	PR	M	PR	M	M	PR	M	MM

Smith Creek Falls